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PATENT
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In the Application:

Please amend the abstract according to the following replacement abstract.

B¹ --The present invention is directed to novel benzimidazoles according to representative structures I and II, and their derivatives that possess antibacterial activity. This invention is also directed to compositions including the benzimidazole derivatives, and methods for using the same.--

In the Specification:

At page 40, line 4, please replace the paragraph following Scheme 11 and the heading "scheme 11" with the following paragraph.

B² --Treatment of commercially available 4,5,-dichloro-1,2-phenylenediamine(1) and N-Boc-isonipecotic acid (2) with EDC in the presence of catalytic amount of DMAP led to the formation of the corresponding amide. The crude mixture was then refluxed in aqueous sodium hydroxide solution to give cyclized intermediate 3, which was reacted with various alkyl, benzyl and aryl halides to give 4a-4l. Treatment of compound 4g with various amines or nitrogen-containing heterocycles provided 6a-x. Deprotection of the Boc group with anhydrous hydrogen chlouide (HCL, 4.0 M) in dioxane at room temperature for 30 minutes to form benzimidazoles 5a-i.--